



House of Representatives

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STANDING COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS
INSURANCE
PUBLIC UTILITIES & TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TRANSPORTATION

January 13, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

For more than 35 years, I have proudly served in the Georgia House of Representatives, representing Bibb County in central Georgia which includes the city of Macon, and one of my committee assignments include the Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee.

During my decades in public office, I have never stopped fighting to help those in our communities who may not be able to help themselves. This includes the poor, the elderly, rural Georgians and the young. The obstacles facing the needy in our society have literally never been higher, especially given our severe economic difficulties and high unemployment.

While there is no one solution, I believe firmly that expanding Internet access and making it more affordable are crucial to putting Americans back to work and for helping those in need. While other countries have fully wired their citizens, America has fallen behind, and it is crucial for the Commission to recognize that the people who do not yet have affordable high-speed Internet service are the ones in greatest need. I see evidence of this every day.

Federal Communications Commission

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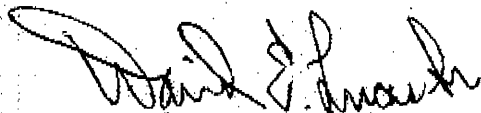
That is why I believe that the Commission's discussion of new "Net neutrality" principles misses the most important point in the discussion of Internet policy. America's greatest need is for all its citizens to have high-speed Internet service that is affordable. Net neutrality just does not help us attain this goal.

I urge the Commission to maintain its focus on bringing the promise of high-speed service to millions of underserved Americans. In our increasingly connected nation, those who do not have or who cannot afford a high-speed connection will be a serious disadvantage to those who do. This is true not only with economic growth and job creation but also with vital issues including healthcare (for example, diagnostic services) and education (for example, distance learning).

Let me be clear: I strongly support the rights of Internet users to go where they want online and not to have their views censored. Our primary goal must be to bring broadband's promise to all Americans – especially those in desperate need due to today's severe economic challenges.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Lucas", written in a cursive style.

David Lucas

Representative, District 139